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January 24, 2000

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John R. Velasquez, Jr.
Acting Central Enforcement Docket Supervisor
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20463

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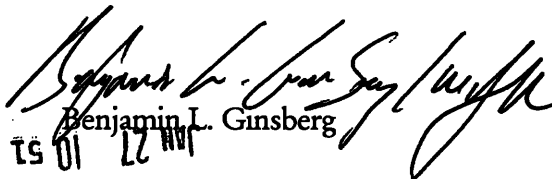
Re: MUR 4953 -- The Honorable Dennis Hastert

Dear Mr. Velasquez:

On behalf of Representative Dennis Hastert, this will respond to the complaint filed in the above-captioned matter by the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. Other than identifying him in the opening paragraph as a respondent, there is but one reference in the complaint to Representative Hastert. On page three, the complaint states: "Delay himself attended the organization's first fundraiser, joined by Republican Members of Congress Dennis Hastert, Dick Armey and J.C. Watts." Beyond mere attendance at a single fundraiser, there is no suggestion, much less evidence, that Representative Hastert participated in any of the alleged activities upon which the allegations of a violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (the "Act"), are based. The absence of even an allegation in this regard is noteworthy.

Accordingly, there is no basis either alleged or in fact or any reason to believe that the complaint sets forth a possible violation by Representative Hastert of the Act. Indeed, the complaint does not even set forth a possible violation of the Act by Representative Hastert.

Sincerely,


Benjamin L. Ginsberg

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